

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): HANSEN, John E. et al.                      Conf. No.                      5673  
Serial No.:        10/538,918                                      Group Art Unit:        3761  
Filed:                December 13, 2005                      Examiner:                HAND, Melanie Jo  
For:                    GELATINE-BASED MATERIALS AS SWABS

**SUBMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a Notification Date of January 15, 2010, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks in connection with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). A petition for a one (1) month extension of time is included herewith.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.